

and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007.

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**Export-Import Bank Reauthorization House Message:** Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 3938, to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, clearing the measure for the President.

Pages S11391–96

**Nomination:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Kent A. Jordan, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

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A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture may occur on Friday, December 8, 2006.

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**Nomination Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination of Andrew von Eschenbach, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, with 60 minutes of debate equally divided, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination.

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**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 95 yeas 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 272), Robert M. Gates, of Texas, to be Secretary of Defense.

Pages S11259–93, S11401

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Michael J. Burns, of New Mexico, to be Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs.

Beryl A. Howell, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2011.

John R. Steer, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2011.

Rosemary E. Rodriguez, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for the remainder of the term expiring December 12, 2007.

Pages S11400–01

**Nominations Withdrawn:** Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

David H. Laufman, of Texas, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense, which was sent to the Senate on June 5, 2006.

Tracy A. Henke, of Missouri, to be Executive Director of the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness, Department of

Homeland Security, which was sent to the Senate on September 5, 2006.

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**Messages From the House:** Pages S11321–22

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** Page S11322

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**Additional Statements:** Pages S11320–21

**Amendments Submitted:** Pages S11349–72

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Pages S11372–73

**Privileges of the Floor:** Page S11372

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—272) Pages S11292–93

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 9:30 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, December 7, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11396.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Leland A. Strom, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, Mark Everett Keenum, of Mississippi, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation, who was introduced by Senator Cochran, and Jill E. Sommers, of Kansas, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### CLIMATE CHANGE

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine issues relating to climate change and the media's treatment of the issue, after receiving testimony from David Deming, University of Oklahoma, Norman; Daniel P. Schrag, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Robert M. Carter, James Cook University, Townsville, Australia; Naomi Oreskes, University of California, San Diego; and Dan Gainor, Business and Media Institute, Alexandria, Virginia.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Alex A. Beehler, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, and Eric D. Eberhard, of Washington, and Diane Humetewa, of Arizona, each to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Robert F. Hoyt, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, Michele A. Davis, of Virginia, Anthony W. Ryan, of Massachusetts, and Phillip L. Swagel, of Maryland, each to be an Assistant Secretary, Paul Cherecwich, Jr., of Utah, and Deborah L. Wince-Smith, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board, all of the Department of the Treasury, Dean A. Pinkert, of Virginia, and Irving A. Williamson, of New York, both to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission, and Dana K. Bilyeu, of Nevada, Mark J. Warshawsky, of Maryland, and Jeffrey Robert Brown, of Illinois, each to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board.

**HURRICANE DISASTER**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the extent of fraud, waste, and abuse relating to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita disaster relief efforts, after receiving testimony from Gregory D. Kutz, Managing Director, and John J. Ryan, Assistant Director, both of the Forensic Audits and Special Investigations, Government Accountability Office.

**NOMINATION**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Paul A. Schneider, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Management, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee approved for reporting the nominations of Terry L. Cline, to be Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Foreststorn Hamilton, Benjamin Donenberg, Joan Israelite, Charlotte P. Kessler, Robert Bretley Lott, William Francis Price, Jr., each to be a Member of

the National Council of the Arts, and Dana Gioia, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts, all of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities, John Peyton, to be Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation, Sara Alicia Tucker, to be Under Secretary of Education, Department of Education, Gerald Walpin, to be Inspector General, Corporation for National and Community Service, Blanca E. Enriquez, to be Member of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board, National Institute For Literacy, Elizabeth Dougherty, to be Member of the National Mediation Board, Leon R. Sequeira, to be Assistant Secretary of Policy, Department of Labor, and sundry nominations in the Public Service.

**FBI**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded oversight hearings to examine activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, focusing on national security, criminal investigations, and science and technology, after receiving testimony from Robert S. Mueller III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

**BANKRUPTCY ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts concluded oversight hearings to examine oversight hearings to examine implementation of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 109–8), after receiving testimony from Clifford J. White III, Director, Executive Office for United States Trustees, Department of Justice; Randall J. Newsome, Chief Judge, Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California; Henry E. Hildebrand III, Chapter 13 Standing Trustee, Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville; Todd Zywicki, George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, Virginia; Steve Bartlett, Financial Services Roundtable, Washington, D.C.; David C. Jones, Association of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies, Poinciana, Florida; and Robert Lawless, University of Illinois College of Law, Champaign.

**NOMINATION**

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator McConnell, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.